

Cape of Good Hope Hiking Trail Rules

Dear Hiker

Welcome to Table Mountain National Park. The Cape of Good Hope Hiking Trail follows a circular route of 33.8km through the Park, and takes two days (one night) to complete. It begins and ends at the entrance gate of the Park, where secure overnight parking is provided. It is essential to complete the Overnight Hiking register upon collection of key, which is obtainable from the Access Control Officer on duty. The same register should be signed upon departure. Please remember to hand in the keys.

Gates open as per normal seasonal operating hours. No entry will be allowed before gate opening time. **Hikers to start the hike before 9am on the day** of arrival to allow for enough time to reach the huts before dark.

All equipment and sleeping bags to be carried with you on your hike.

Porterage is however available at an additional cost payable on arrival at the gate on the day the hike commences. Payment of porterage is via card payment. We do not accept cash at the gate.

**A luggage weighing scale is present at the main entrance (Cape Point Gate),
Regrettably any bag/items that weigh above the stipulated kilograms will not be accepted for porterage.**

For the 6 sleeper unit offer a drop off/collection of bags service is available at an additional cost of R335.00 for 6 bags/items or less. Thereafter it is R151.00 per bag/item over and above 6 bags/items, payable at the Main Gate.

For the 12 sleeper unit we offer a drop off/collection of bags service at an additional cost of R670.00 for 12 bags/items or less. Thereafter it is R151.00 per bag/item over and above 12 bags/items, payable at the Main Gate.

We will only transport backpacks (including sleeping bag attached to the backpack) of less than 6kg per bag. Plus only small 2 - 4kg carry coolers with 1 carry handle.

1. No big cooler boxes, storage boxes or military storage boxes.

2. No small fridges or gas cooking bottles.
3. Duffels bags provided the sleeping bag is contained within the duffel bag as we do not transport loose sleeping bags.
4. No suitcases.
5. No black bags with bedding or any other items in them.

We will not allow any transportation of the above items to the huts by yourselves or friends that are in vehicles. We return portered items to the Main Gate and they are kept in the office for you until you arrive. Please do not leave valuable items in your bag for this reason.

No vehicles will be allowed to go up to the overnight hut under ANY circumstances!

Rates and Fees

The tariff is R460.00 per person for the hiking trail accommodation, plus a 1% community levy fee.

1. This does not include the daily Conservation/Entry fee.
2. **All conservation fees must be paid prior to arrival.**
3. Tariffs are subject to change without notice and prices are increased annually on the 1st of November.
4. If you have a valid Wild Card the persons that are programmed on the Wild Card do not have to pay the daily conservation fees.
5. A My Green Card may not be used in lieu of daily conservation fees when using Table Mountain National Park Accommodation.
6. No day visitors or guests are allowed at the overnight huts.
7. Your Confirmation Booking form needs to be produced to the Access Control Officer at the gate before 09h00 on date of arrival. If you fail to adhere to the above, entry will be denied.

Map

We will email a Cape of Good Hope hiking map to you prior to your arrival.

If this map is not comprehensive enough for you, we suggest you purchase a Pieter Slingsby map prior to arrival that has all the hiking trails in the Cape of Good Hope area marked on it, including the overnight hiking trail.

What You Need To Bring

1. Sleeping bag and pillows
2. Food
3. Clothes (warm jacket, rain wear, hat, sun block)
4. Toiletries and towel
5. Please ensure that you have adequate drinking water with you before you start the hike. Please fill your bottle on arrival at the main gate and again before your depart from the hut. You can refill your bottle at the demarcated picnic sites on the map.
6. Carry own charcoal. No wood allowed into the park.
7. Please programme the TMNP emergency number in your phone before setting off on the hike. The number is 086 110 6417.

Hut Facilities

1. Cutlery and crockery are provided. (Plates, knives, forks, mugs, etc. are in all the huts)
2. Accommodation:
 - Protea and Restio accommodate 12 people (2 rooms next to each other, each with six beds.)
 - There is a communal bathroom and kitchen with a three-plate gas burner, outside braai.
 - Each room/hut has 3 bunk beds with very comfortable mattresses.
3. Hikers must arrive before 09h00 to ensure the hike will be completed in daylight.
4. **There are showers but we ask that you use water sparingly.**
5. The hut is solar powered, so please conserve power. A light meter is installed and lights will only switch on when it is sufficiently dark. They do not last more than an hour or two after sunset.
6. Please ensure that the lights are switched off before you leave.
7. **All huts have braai places and braai grids. Regrettably no wood is allowed in the Park due to Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer Beetle. We ask that all guest bring charcoal and matches along to braai with. Guests to carry own charcoal. Please ensure that all fires are extinguished or secure before going to bed and before you leave.**
8. Departure from the hut by 09h00 the following day.
9. Please tidy the hut before you leave!
10. This location is not patrolled at night by a security guard.
11. **Please be mindful during your hike as there are baboons** along the trail and in the vicinity of the Hut. When given the opportunity they will enter the hut and destroy property and your personal belongings.
 - a. **When you leave, please ensure that all the doors and windows of the Overnight Hut are closed and locked so that baboons cannot enter.**
 - b. When hiking with food ensure that no food is visible and request that you do not feed the baboons at any point.

The familiarity or aggression demonstrated by certain baboons is a consequence of inappropriate human behaviour over many years, in particular feeding of the animals, which has led them to associate people with food.
12. **All hikers to be over the age of 12.** Children under 18 need to be accompanied by an adult when walking the trail.
13. **Minimum of x2 pax required to walk the trail**
14. **Both hiking huts have a base rate in place when booking:**
6 sleeper unit is 4 pax, 12 sleeper unit is 8 pax

Bookings and Enquiries

Office hours (Monday to Friday): 08h00 – 12h30 and 13h00 – 15h45

Table Mountain National Park Reservations: **021 712 7471**

Emergencies

086 110 6417 or 021 741 2372/4

Cellphone reception is erratic across the park.

Hiking in Table Mountain National Park is at own risk and all hikers on the COGH hiking trail agree that South African National Parks (SANParks), its directors, employees and agents are not liable to you or your co hikers/ hikers in your group for any and all

- Loss, damage or destruction of any property; or
- Death or bodily injury to any person even if caused by the negligence of SANParks, its directors, employees or agents. By entering SANParks premises you and them or your and their heirs, executors and administrators also agree that you will indemnify SANParks and hold it harmless against any claim which may be made against SANParks as a result of such loss, damage, destruction, death or bodily injury.

Thank you and enjoy the hike!

Table Mountain National Park Management Team